



## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Affordable Housing Québec — Inauguration — 51 New Affordable Housing Units in Québec City**

**QUÉBEC CITY, Québec, June 20, 2005** — Lower-income families and individuals in Québec City will soon have more affordable housing options thanks to the construction of La Maison du Peuple housing co-operative, a project comprising four buildings with a total of 51 housing units located in the Limoilou borough of Québec City, an investment of \$5.9 million.

This announcement was made today by the Honourable Jean-C. Lapierre, Minister of Transport and Minister responsible for Quebec, on behalf of the Honourable Joe Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing; and by Margaret F. Delisle, Minister for Youth Protection and Rehabilitation and MNA for Jean-Talon, on behalf of Nathalie Normandeau, Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Regions. In addition to Minister Delisle, Claude Larose, Municipal Councillor responsible for housing on the Québec City Executive Committee, and Jacques Robitaille and Benoît Carrier, respectively Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of La Maison du Peuple housing co-operative, were present at the inauguration ceremony.

The construction of the buildings was completed thanks to the participation of public, private, and community partners. The financial contributions for the development of this project, totalling \$4,273,268, were provided under the affordable housing agreement signed between Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and the Société d'habitation du Québec (SHQ).

CMHC provided \$1,613,235 in financial assistance for the project, while the SHQ contributed a sum of \$1,806,005. The community, for its part, provided a sum of \$854,028, including an amount of \$799,988 from Québec City. The other costs are being assumed by La Maison du Peuple housing co-operative, in particular through a mortgage loan secured by the SHQ.

"The Government of Canada is pleased to work with the province, the municipality, and community sector representatives to meet the housing needs of the citizens of Québec City," said Minister Lapierre. "Affordable housing units are a source of individual and collective pride. They enhance quality of life, stimulate commercial investment and contribute to the sustainable development of communities."

"The Government of Quebec is delighted with the development of these 51 new dwellings that will allow families and individuals to benefit from housing that meets their needs. What is more, this construction is an excellent example of a successful partnership between governments, the municipality and the community sector," said Minister Delisle.

"It is with great pride that Québec City participated in this social housing project. It is a known fact that there is a tremendous need for this type of housing, and the City is making every effort, with its partners and people from the community, to provide sustainable and equitable solutions," commented Claude Larose, Municipal Councillor responsible for social housing on the Québec City Executive Committee.

The development of this project is part of the Government of Quebec's initiative to produce 18,600 social, community and private housing units for low- and moderate-income households. This initiative is notably supported by federal funds made available under affordable housing agreements.

The Governments of Canada and Quebec signed an agreement, in August 2004, concerning additional funding for the second phase of the Affordable Housing Program, as Quebec became the first province to sign such an agreement. This makes for a total contribution of \$150 million to increase the availability of affordable housing in Quebec. The federal contribution is \$75 million, with an equivalent amount being provided by the Government of Quebec and the municipalities participating in the program.

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